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December 1, 2003

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 10/694,729; Filed: October 29, 2003  
For: **Multipurpose and Programmable Pad Ring for an Integrated Circuit**  
Inventors: TRAN *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1875.4520000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS);
2. List of cited documents on Form PTO/SB/08B (1 sheet);
3. A copy of each document cited on Form PTO/SB/08B  
(8 documents: AAF1-AAM1); and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
December 1, 2003  
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Kendrick P. Patterson  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 45,321

RES/KPP/acr  
Enclosures

SKGF\_DC1:204231.1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

TRAN *et al.*

Appl. No. 10/694,729

Filed: October 29, 2003

For: **Multipurpose and Programmable  
Pad Ring for an Integrated  
Circuit**

Confirmation No. *To Be Assigned*

Art Unit: *To Be Assigned*

Examiner: *To Be Assigned*

Atty. Docket: 1875.4520000

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO/SB/08B are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO/SB/08B based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application

does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.
- a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

- b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

□ 4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form [OR] Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:

- a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

□ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the

foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.

- 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- 7. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO/SB/08B, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Kendrick P. Patterson  
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Date: December 1, 2003

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

## Complete if Known

Application Number	10/694,729
Filing Date	October 29, 2003
First Named Inventor	Hoang T. TRAN
Art Unit	To Be Assigned
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	1875.4520000

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
	AAF1	"Broadcom Announces the First 0.13-micron CMOS Multi-Rate Gigabit Octal Serializers/Deserializers" [online], Broadcom Press Release, October 29, 2002 [retrieved on 2003-07-16]. Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: http://www.broadcom.com/cgi-bin/pr/prps.cgi?pr_id=PR021029> (5 pages).	
	AAG1	"BCM8040 8-Channel Multi-rate 1.0-3.2-GBPS Retimer Switch" [online], Broadcom Products Site Guide [retrieved on 2003-07-16]. Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: http://www.broadcom.com/products/8040.html> (2 pages).	
	AAH1	"8-Channel Multi-Rate CMOS Retimer with Full Redundancy" [online], BCM8040 Product Brief, Broadcom Corporation (2002) [retrieved on 2003-07-16]. Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: http://www.broadcom.com/products/8040.html> (2 pages).	
	AAI1	"BCM8020 8-Channel Multi-rate 1.0-3.2-GBPS Transceiver" [online], Broadcom Products Site Guide [retrieved on 2003-07-16]. Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: http://www.broadcom.com/products/8020.html> (2 pages).	
	AAJ1	"8-Channel Multi-Rate CMOS Transceiver with Full Redundancy" [online], BCM8020 Product Brief, Broadcom Corporation (2002) [retrieved on 2003-07-16]. Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: http://www.broadcom.com/products/8020.html> (2 pages).	
	AAK1	"BCM8021 4-Channel Multi-rate 1.0-3.2-GBPS Transceiver with High-Speed Redundancy" [online], Broadcom Products Site Guide [retrieved on 2003-07-16]. Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: http://www.broadcom.com/products/8021.html> (2 pages).	
	AAL1	"4-Channel Multirate 1.0-3.2-GBPS Transceiver with High-Speed Redundancy" [online], BCM8021 Product Brief, Broadcom Corporation (2002) [retrieved on 2003-07-16]. Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: http://www.broadcom.com/products/8021.html> (2 pages).	
	AAM1	"Broadcom Announces the Industry's First 0.13-micron CMOS Advanced Transceiver Solution with Signal Conditioning for Low-Cost 10-Gigabit Over Copper Links" [online], Broadcom Press Release, April 29, 2003 [retrieved on 2003-07-16]. Retrieved from the Internet: <URL: http://www.broadcom.com/cgi-bin/pr/prps.cgi?pr_id=PR030429A> (4 pages).	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional) <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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